

LANDESAMT FÜR UMWELT,
LANDWIRTSCHAFT
UND GEOLOGIE



Freistaat
SACHSEN

Key Competencies Under One Roof



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Preface

Network to shape the future – this is the motto of the Saxon State Office for Environment, Agriculture and Geology (LfULG) in tackling the increasingly complex issues of agricultural and environmental policies for both businesses and citizens. The discussions on the impacts of climate change, globalisation or financial crisis make us aware that we can face today's challenges only with profound specialist competencies in a close interdisciplinary collaborative approach. On the first of August, 2008 the LfULG adopted a new structure to meet this challenge. The specialist authority reports directly to the Saxon State Ministry of the Environment and Agriculture (SMUL) and its work is supported, even beyond the administrative state borders, by a well organised network of partners in industry, science, consultancy and education as well as committed regional actors. They work on practicable and sustainable solutions intended to protect our environment, safeguard the interests of our businesses, preserve our cultural landscapes and foster the rural development in Saxony. Geoscientific land and soil surveying activities provide the crucial basic data. Our aim as a neutral and competent partner is to guarantee healthy living conditions for the people in Saxony, to maintain the competitiveness of Saxon enterprises in the agricultural and

food sectors and to enhance the rural area as an attractive place to live. The support schemes and research activities of the LfULG in the agricultural and environmental fields in Saxony are effective instruments to achieve this goal.

In line with our guiding principles, we endeavour to create a link between science and practice to ensure the results from research are directly applicable in the field. A sound basis is created not only by the accurate and up-to-date trial results in agriculture and horticulture, but also by our environmental monitoring system based on a Saxony-wide network of measuring stations.

We can meet the challenges and opportunities of the future only by avoiding danger to people, nature and environment and by preserving and maintaining our natural resources. The work of all departments of the LfULG is devoted to sustainable and environmentally sound management practices combining both ecological concerns and economic issues while preserving the natural diversity of fauna and flora.

Education is the basis of innovation and progress. Our basic and advanced training facilities in agriculture and horticulture profit from the close relationship between research, trial and teaching and enable the apprentices and trainees in green trades to meet the future

requirements with specialist skills and professional motivation.

Our central tasks are the communication of knowledge, the transmission of specific work results and the introduction of new technologies. We offer a broad spectrum of events and publications, periodic information services and specialised internet portals to constantly provide neutral up-to-date information on all agricultural and environmental issues to specialists, pupils, students, consultants and public groups of interest.

The LfULG is present across all Saxon regions. In the service of the whole population, we contribute to the progress, change, preservation and sustainable enhancement of living spaces, quality of life and natural resources in Saxony.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'N. Eichkorn'.

Yours faithfully,
Norbert Eichkorn
President of the Saxon State
Office for Environment,
Agriculture and Geology



SPECIALIST STRATEGIES AND POLITICAL ASSISTANCE

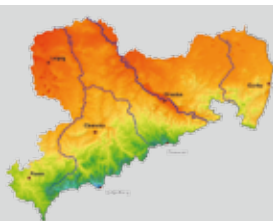
Network to shape the future

What should agricultural and environmental policies and rural development look like in the future? The answer to this question is a key work item of the LfULG. The specialist teams provide the required ecological and economic data and analyses as decision-making aids for the political level.

They also give technical recommendations for practical strategies and actions in close collaboration with networking partners in administration, economy, science, education and consultancy. Practice-based advisory boards, collaborative research clusters and partnerships help safeguard the interests of the actors in

agriculture and rural areas, guarantee for region relevance and provide orientation to ensure good environmental management practices.

The aim is, based on the environmental and agricultural policies of the European Union, to improve the structural and socioeconomic conditions for Saxon farmers, to maintain the viability and competitiveness of the holdings and to safeguard and enhance the standards achieved in the environmental sector.



Based on a broad interdisciplinary approach and on the exchange of views with scientists and practitioners, the LfULG also contributes to designing sustainable environmental policy strategies for the Free State of Saxony. This approach makes it possible to avoid misadjustments, to assess social developments and business impacts in a forward-looking and predictive manner, and to enhance fair partnership approaches, for instance within the scope of environment alliances.

Laying the basis for progress

The work and the data provided by the LfULG form the basis for political decisions in the agricultural and environmental fields in line with practical needs. The current fields of action show very clearly the strong link between environmental protection and agricultural practice:

- Sustainable production of agricultural and horticultural articles;
- Climate change, climate control, energy efficiency and renewable energies;
- Protection and sustainable use of natural resources and environmental information;
- Integrated rural development (ILE);
- Protection of the community from harmful environmental impacts; and
- Environmental biotechnology as well as white and green biotechnology and gene technology.

Enhancing rural areas

The effects of the demographic change in the rural areas of Saxony are becoming more and more noticeable. Integrated Rural Development (ILE) measures under the technical supervision of the LfULG are designed to guarantee for a well-balanced development of the Saxon cities and the Saxon countryside also in the future. Key components are: the village development competition "Our Village Has A Future", the initiative "Saxony's Event Villages", rural tourism and rural redevelopment projects. The LfULG brings together all actors interested in the aim to develop durable concepts.

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FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Viable businesses – strong initiatives

They are an indispensable contribution to the viability also of agricultural holdings in Saxony: the direct and compensatory payments from the agricultural budget of the European Union. The LfULG is responsible for processing the applications and disbursing the money to farmers in Saxony. This is true not only for the single payment scheme (SPS), but also for payments granted in reward for agri-environmental measures – e.g. good management of grasslands,

farmlands, ponds and lakes in compliance with nature conservation – and for compensatory allowances paid to holdings in less-favoured areas. This is a crucial contribution to ensuring both the viability of Saxon farms and environmentally sound production processes in line with animal welfare. Investment promotion in the agricultural sector is another instrument for maintaining competitive farms using sustainable management methods.



Most applicants have short distances to contact the granting authority: the LfULG runs ten local branches across the whole Saxon territory and thus is deeply rooted in the regions. These local contact points handle the entire process from the initial application to the final grant via controls in terms of single payments, agri-environmental measures and investment promotion.

Improving quality of life – maintaining biodiversity

In addition to financial grants for farmers, the LfULG also supports manifold initiatives taken by associations and groups of interest to improve both the quality of life in rural areas and nature conservation projects. Financial aids under the "Natural Heritage" funding guideline are granted to promote e.g. species protection measures as well as the design and maintenance of biotopes. Applications can be filed with the LfULG's specialist team in nature conservation. In terms of Integrated Rural Development (ILE), the LfULG is a bridge between the Saxon State Ministry of the Environment and Agriculture (SMUL) and the rural districts as granting authority.

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Specialist knowledge geared to practice

Without the young generation there would be no future: So the LfULG is a prime address also for the specialists of tomorrow. Our office designs and coordinates the educational and training courses for 15 agricultural, horticultural, housekeeping, dairy farming and forestry jobs thereby ensuring the continued availability of well-trained qualified staff in Saxon agriculture.

The LfULG is also responsible for examinations and for the approval of schools and training centres. Every year, it manages about 3,500 contracts within the "green trades" training scheme in Saxony. The intercompany training component adds to corporate in-house train-

ing. More than 3,400 apprentices attend some 420 week courses in the three training centres of Köllitsch, Dresden-Pillnitz and Königswartha. All of the three training sites offer synergy effects from combined training, research and trial to the benefit of the apprentices.

Modern training centres

The Köllitsch Teaching & Trial Farm has modern stable facilities for cattle, pigs and sheep, a large fleet of farming machinery, as well as well-equipped teaching workshops and classrooms. The apprentices can choose between more than 20 courses. They live in a modern hall of residence with attractive leisure time activities enhancing the training environment.



The training centre in Dresden-Pillnitz offers bundled expertise in the field of horticulture. It has appropriate space for soil cultivation trials, outdoor fields, greenhouses with state-of-the-art equipment as well as premises for customer advice and sales training. Apprentices can rely on modern teaching workshops, classrooms and a computer room.

The Königswartha centre provides the intercompany training in fish farming for all east German states. In addition to training courses for the processing of freshwater fish and for the fabrication and repair of fishing gear, the centre offers preparatory courses for obtaining the fishing master's certificate or the electric fishing equipment operating license. A trial pond area of 8 ha, modern laboratory equipment, a net workshop, and a teaching and demonstration kitchen are available to the benefit of the apprentices.

Qualified advanced training

The professional schools in Döbeln, Großenhain, Löbau, Plauen and Zwickau convey the required knowledge and skills for future managerial staff in agricultural trades. They provide advanced training for state-certified housekeepers in agriculture and preparatory courses for the trade master's examinations. In Saxony, about 200 young cultivators, animal farmers, fish farmers, horse farmers, gardeners and housekeepers strive for the master's certificate in Saxony every year. The Agricultural Engineering and Horticulture Schools of the LfULG in Dresden-Pillnitz are unique in Saxony. They offer advanced training courses in ornamental plant cultivation, fruit

and vegetable growing, tree nursing as well as gardening and landscaping to enable young gardeners to become state-certified technologists or housekeepers, or master gardeners. At the academic level, the LfULG works closely together with the University of Applied Sciences (HTW Dresden) and the Saxon University of Cooperative Education (BA Sachsen).

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TECHNOLOGY AND KNOW-HOW TRANSFER

Direct communication of work results

Up-to-date information is the key to progress and success. The LfULG has established effective ways to ensure that the results from specialised operations and research activities are directly communicated to enterprises, associations, authorities and training facilities.

The LfULG organises about 400 regional and supraregional events every year to provide a platform for the dissemination and public discussion of latest research findings as well as for exchanges of experience in a variety of disciplines. The results from said conferences, workshops and seminars are made available in the Internet. Another major component of regional

importance is the advanced training programme offered by the local branches e.g. in terms of financial support schemes and specialised law.

Specialist knowledge at first hand

Every year, the LfULG publishes about 100 flyers, brochures, reports, books and monographic series on all technical and research subjects. All publications are available for download in the regularly updated publications database or can be obtained as printed copies – most of them free of charge.

The "Agricultural Info Service" is distributed at no charge to farmers and land users. It provides information on new statutory regulations in



animal and plant production and on issues of financial support and education. Its regional section contains important dates and latest information from the LfULG's local branches.

The online newsletter of the LfULG is issued every two months. It briefly outlines latest research findings and makes practice recommendations under the captions Environment, Agriculture, Geology and Rural Area, with hyperlinks to other sources of information in the Internet. Subscribers receive this free newsletter by e-mail. All relevant information from the LfULG is made available in the Internet via the four theme portals: Environment, Agriculture, Rural Area and Geology.

Numerous press releases and professional articles provide the public with information on subjects of topical interest and events to come. Touring exhibitions and educational trails all over Saxony give insight into the relationships between environment, agriculture and geology in a clear and intelligible way. Furthermore, the LfULG is regularly present at regional and suprarregional events, trade fairs, shows and exhibitions to offer a wide range of information in an interdisciplinary environment.

Profiting from networks

Another way to bundle and publish current knowledge and latest findings is to use network partnerships like the "Green Forum Pillnitz" or cooperation with institutions of other German states. Modern networking structures in agricultural consultancy open the way for practice-oriented offers to private economic actors.

The trial operations and research activities of the LfULG in the fields of horticulture, plant and animal production are closely linked with the trial centres of the other German states.

Many visitors from the agricultural practice as well as consultants, advisors and school classes come for the annual field days, demonstrations and open house days to be informed about variety tests and culture trials, new breeds and the latest state of the art.

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OFFICIAL CONTROL

Safety for consumers and producers

The LfULG plays a central role in reliable consumer protection in Saxony. Especially in the field of food and nutrition, it is very important to give protection against abuse and deception and to ensure transparent marketing conditions. The origin, quality and mode of production of plant and animal products are clearly identified on the basis of marketing standards, classification standards, protected names or indications of provenance, labels and marks. The LfULG carries out systematic and qualified inspections to ensure general compliance for fresh fruit and vegetables, ware potatoes, flowers, eggs, meat

and fish. Also, the butter and cheese articles from Saxon producers undergo regular official quality controls.

The controls by LfULG also cover major fields of agricultural production. Whether the approval of seed and planting stock or controls on ecological farming, whether fertilizer movement or plant protection products – all official control activities of the Saxon state office LfULG are intended to provide protection for producers, manufacturers of consumables and consumers. There are further critical responsibilities such as phytosanitary controls in terms of plant health movement and pathogen monitoring.



The main task of the LfULG as the competent fishing authority in Saxony is to preserve, maintain and develop fish stocks. It is responsible for the administration of fishing rights and leases as well as for the issuance of fishing licenses to Saxon anglers and for the organisation of fishery inspection. Also, the LfULG employs specialist staff for fish stock monitoring under the European Water Framework Directive (WFD) all over Saxony.

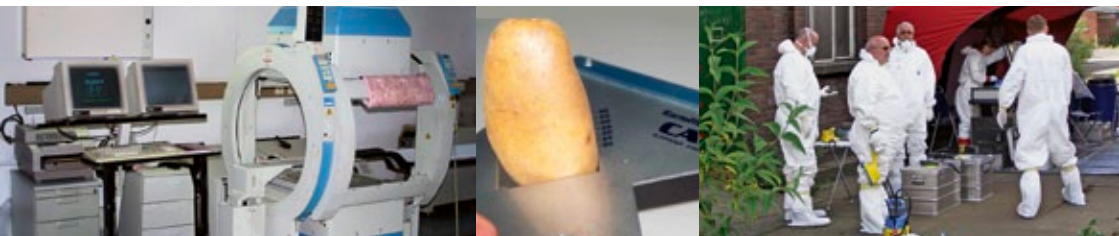
Protection of man and environment

The LfULG is also vested with advisory, control and monitoring functions for the production and sale of washing preparations and detergents and for ensuring compliance with the German wastewater ordinance. The Germany-wide waste monitoring system ASYS guarantees for transparent supervision of waste streams. The LfULG is the nodal point for hazardous waste in Saxony and looks after this programme.

Another important task is radiation protection. In the aim to keep the community and the environment safe, the LfULG ensures compliance with nuclear law and radiation protection regulations where radioactive substances and ionising radiation are used in research, industry and health care. This includes protection from natural radioactive sources such as the radioactive noble gas radon. The LfULG is also working on the elimination of the radioactive legacy of the "Wismut" uranium mining complex as one of the major environmental problems in Saxony.

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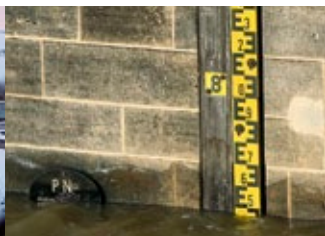
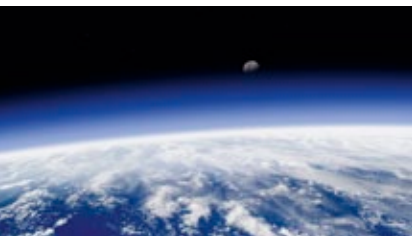
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND MONITORING

Preserving resources – avoiding dangers

Water, air, soil and biodiversity are indispensable resources of life and must be preserved and protected. One of the central tasks of the LfULG is to monitor the natural resources and develop solutions for their sustainable use. Also, effective protection measures are required to mitigate the risks from climate change for man and nature. For this purpose, climate experts of the LfULG run a climate monitoring programme and produce sophisticated climate indicators. Scientists in many disciplines use the ever improving Saxon climate projections for developing adjustment strategies in response to the climate change.

Clean water

The Free State of Saxony pursues a consistent strategy in watercourse protection and environmentally sound use of water resources. This strategy is based on the European Water Framework Directive (WFD). Watershed management plans for the large catchment areas of the Elbe and Oder rivers identify the way to the “good condition” of the watercourses. Within the scope of the environmental monitoring scheme in Saxony, the characteristics of both the surface waters and the groundwater are controlled with the help of comprehensive monitoring networks and measuring programmes.



Flood control

The Saxon Flood Control Centre monitors the flows and levels of watercourses to allow for early flood alerts. The measured data together with the data delivered by the neighbouring countries as well as the precipitation and thaw forecasts of the German Weather Service provide reliable values for the flood forecast and warning system. Affected persons are immediately informed via Internet, telephone, facsimile, SMS, or videotext. Flood control has achieved high standards in Saxony. The LfULG has a wealth of experience in flood prevention and integrates this knowledge into flood control concepts or local measures for the implementation of European flood control regulations.

Rehabilitation of contaminated sites

Contaminated lands may pollute groundwater and thus cause danger to man and nature. The specialist teams of the LfULG develop methods for the exploration and rehabilitation of contaminated sites. The LfULG is also the competent partner for the renaturation, recultivation and restoration of the water balance and waste dumps in mining areas, especially in the large lignite open-cast mining areas.

Life-cycle economy

High-quality drinking water supplies and proper sewage disposal are important municipal tasks. The LfULG develops suitable strategies for this purpose. During the past few years, waste management has changed into a recycling sector. The energetic utilisation of residential waste helps save fossil fuels and limits the output of climate-relevant carbon dioxide. The LfULG supervises this process of conversion into a resource-optimised circular economy.

Sustainable land use

Soil is exposed to manifold risks including but not limited to land consumption, soil sealing, erosion and hazardous input materials. The LfULG identifies and assesses such risks and develops suitable risk mitigation tools.

Soil maps inform about the varied soil landscapes in Saxony. They form the basis of soil assessments in planning procedures. Measuring and monitoring programmes provide the LfULG specialists with the basic data to be used in soil protection, climate impact research, planning and health care. Soil maps, assessments and evaluations are available in the digital form in the Soil Information System.



Better air quality

The Free State of Saxony also operates a modern air monitoring network for determining the sources and masses of air pollutants and climate-relevant gases all over the Saxon territory. The LfULG evaluates the data, draws up reports and maps showing the air quality trend and the spreading of pollutants in the atmosphere, and defines appropriate measures. For clean air it is important to avoid or diminish emissions at their very sources. The LfULG's expert opinions on the state of the art contribute to the consolidation and enhancement of Saxony's economic position. The LfULG is also centrally responsible for the monitoring of technical facilities under the German Incident Ordinance and can be contacted at any time via a 24/7 emergency hotline.

Less noise

Noise has become a real nuisance. Many Saxon communities establish noise maps and noise action plans with the help of the LfULG to reduce the problem for the affected public. In special cases, the LfULG is also responsible for the measurement and assessment of noise, vibration and light pollution.

Preserving natural biodiversity

Nature conservation endeavours to preserve and restore the ecological performance and balance of the natural environment. A major component is soil protection. The necessary measures for achieving this goal are laid down in the Landscape Programme for the Free State of Saxony. The big overall theme within the LfULG is the implementation of the European NATURA 2000 habitat system. The objective is to preserve natural biodiversity by creating a coherent ecological network. Altogether 270 FFH's (flora/fauna habitats) and 77 SPA's (special protection areas under the Bird Directive) were selected and declared under NATURA 2000 to protect endangered habitats and animal species in Saxony. The total protected area accounts for about 16 per cent of the Saxon territory.

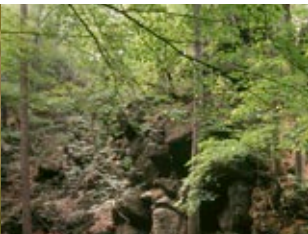
Natural area protection deals with basic issues regarding the establishment and development of protected areas. This is closely related to the survey and protection of biotopes as well as their interconnection (habitat linkage). More than 30 per cent of the Saxon territory is classified as protected landscapes or nature conservation areas. LfULG specialists elaborate concepts for the maintenance and management of the cultural landscapes of Saxony in compliance with nature conservation concerns.



The LfULG also develops species protection measures and programmes on the basis of the survey and documentation of Saxony's plant and animal species. This work is largely based on the Red Lists of endangered animal and plant species, biotopes and plant communities as well as on the maps of potentially natural vegetation. Species protection includes the attached bat identification centre for the five East German states.

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AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE

Sustainable management – competitive businesses

The LfULG provides assistance to agricultural and horticultural producers in Saxony to run a competitive business on the basis of economically sound management practices. It gives recommendations for action, based on the findings and knowledge from research, trials and demonstration projects, to show the way to sustainable result-oriented management. The specialised departments of the LfULG make available modern operational and economic instruments helping the farmers improve their business management and risk control approach, and they give recommendations for sales promotion and business orientation.

Crop farming – environmentally sound and efficient

The LfULG places particular emphasis on fertilisation, variety selection, precision farming and the development of climate adjustment strategies, as well as on the further development of ecological farming methods. Within the scope of investigations into renewable resources, utilisation-oriented farming methods are tried and tested for both established and new types of cultures, especially as energy resources.

Also, the LfULG develops new soil management methods with the aim to protect the soil cover and avoid or minimise erosion and structural damage. Soil conservation is of ever increasing importance in Saxony. Resource protection is the



major concern and objective in all assessments of pollutant inputs to soil and all analyses of the effect of agri-environmental measures on biodiversity.

The LfULG develops sustainable and environmentally safe plant protection strategies for agriculture and horticulture to limit the application of chemical plant protection agents to the strict minimum. The same purpose is served by the prognostic models that are developed, tested and made available by the expert teams of the LfULG. The crop production recommendations given by the LfULG are based on surveys carried out in agricultural holdings, as well as on the crop growing and variety trials performed in the four trial centres in Nossen, Pommritz, Roda and Christgrün and in the trial fields of Baruth and Forchheim.

Animal production – welfare quality and high performance

The animal production work of the LfULG is largely focused on the testing and evaluation of environmentally compatible livestock husbandry and feeding methods at high animal welfare standards. The objective is to constantly improve health, stability and reproductive performance of livestock. New technologies generally known as "precision livestock farming" play an ever greater part.

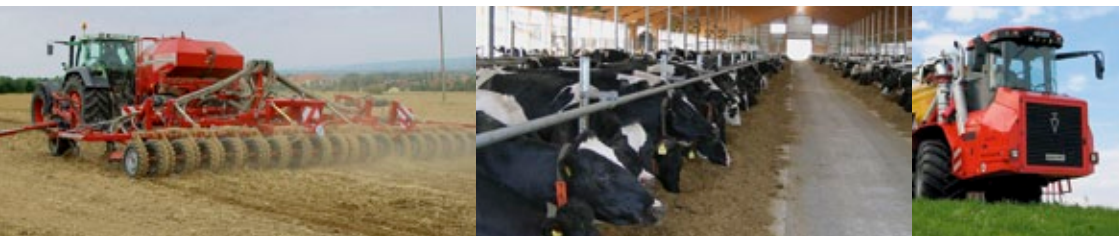
Saxon animal breeders profit from the application of biotechnology, molecular diagnostics and information engineering methods, which are integrated into practical breeding strategies and adjusted to the local Saxon conditions by the specialist teams of the LfULG.

To guarantee for highest quality and hygiene standards in feedstuffs, the LfULG monitors and assesses potential risk factors and makes recommendations for preventive action. New feed materials are checked for their physiological nutrition values and their specific effects. In the light of changing framework and climate conditions, the sustainable and efficient management of grasslands and field fodder production gains in importance. The LfULG checks forage crops for their feed value and persistence, and gives recommendations for seed mixes adapted to local conditions and land uses.

In terms of fishery, the work is focused on appropriate breeding technologies for recreational and food fish. The LfULG provides the Saxon fish farmers with concepts of good management practices for Saxon fishing waters. Preservation of biodiversity in Saxon water bodies is based on the specialist work of the LfULG, i.e. mapping of fishes, crustaceans and cyclostomes, and identification of causes of danger to aquatic resources.

Horticulture – energy-saving and quality-oriented

Horticulture, just like agriculture, must meet high standards in terms of quality, environmental compatibility and product safety. Modern environmentally sound cultivation techniques and effective low-energy production in greenhouses are basic conditions to maintain the competitiveness of Saxon horticultural enterprises. The LfULG makes economic analyses of variants of ornamental plant, vegetable and fruit growing techniques to give recommenda-



tions to the growers. The main emphasis is placed on energy management and strategies for adjustment to the climate change. Ecological horticulture is another aspect of growing importance. The LfULG runs comparative assortment trials in gardening and landscaping.

The trial scheme of the LfULG provides the basic data for regular recommendations to horticultural holdings, gardening and landscaping firms, as well as small space gardeners.

The harmful organism monitoring programme and the plant protection alert service are crucial decision-making aids for horticultural farmers. The foregoing two services are also available to wine growers in Saxony as the smallest wine-growing region in Germany. The LfULG is also responsible for official wine quality controls.

The Garden Academy of the LfULG provides hobby gardeners with information on how gardens can be arranged and used in a natural way and how plants can be selected and maintained in agreement with the environmental standards and local conditions. The gardening advisors and "plant doctors" trained by the Garden Academy give advice on specific questions regarding small and front gardens all over Saxony. Their focus lies on plant cultivation, soil protection, plant nutrition, fertilisers and plant protection.

New knowledge in trial and teaching

The Köllitsch Teaching & Trial Farm is located in the North Saxon Elbe river plain at about 15 kilometres from the historic German reformation city of Torgau. It looks back on a 100-year-long tradition of crucial technical progress in agriculture. This crop farming and livestock husbandry trial and demonstration centre conveys practicable technical information directly to farmers and advisors. Köllitsch is recognised and renowned beyond state borders as a centre of vocational basic and advanced training and applied research. The training centre covers an agricultural area of about 940 ha for trials and demonstrations under practical conditions. Some 50 per cent of the lands are located in nature conservation areas, water protection districts or fauna/flora habitats. This location calls for sustainable and environmentally sound management practices. The agri-ecological concept of this site aims to create links between habitats and protected areas for preserving the diversity of species.

The Köllitsch teaching & trial farm holds 200 milk cows, 100 sucklers of different races, 140 breeding sows, and 60 fallow and sika deer. The livestock is kept in new or upgraded stable facilities specifically geared to the high standards of environmental protection and animal welfare.

The LfULG's investigations, trials and comparative studies in animal and plant production as well as in nature conservation and environmental protection are all focused on the latest state of the art.



Future-oriented fisheries

Pond management in the Königswartha region has a long tradition dating back to the 16th century. Königswartha is the seat of the fishing authority and a central training facility for pond farmers. Its applied research activities are of supraregional importance. It is here where specialists of the LfULG develop their concepts for environmentally sound fishing uses of Saxon water bodies as a basis for continued carp pond management in Saxony.

Another focus lies on fishery management concepts for running waters and mining lakes. Furthermore, the fishery experts work on technologies for good practice breeding of recreational and food fishes in ponds and aquacultural facilities. Product quality controls and fish marketing studies help ensure the competitiveness of Saxon freshwater fisheries.

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Exploring and assessing raw material reserves

The Earth's crust accommodates raw material reserves, supplies groundwater, provides the subsoil for construction, offers the substrate for plant growth, and contains geothermal energy. It is a major basis of human life and economy. Within the scope of the global geoscientific land survey, the specialists of the LfULG describe the characteristics of the outer layer of the Earth in Saxony. The geological use and risk potentials are presented in the form of maps and data bases. The data is used in all projects related to groundwater extraction, extraction of natural resources, energy genera-

tion, site decontamination, land reclamation in mining districts, and soil assessment for construction.

In its quality as the Saxon geology service, the LfULG is the technical authority for geosciences in the Free State of Saxony. It delivers technical statements, expert opinions and recommendations within the scope of physical planning, land-use planning, country & regional planning, and approval procedures for raw material extraction and for the establishment of drinking water protection areas. Also, the LfULG gives advice on georisks and assistance in geotope protection projects.



The Geology Department of the LfULG is well equipped in geoscientific publications, samples and drill cores, which can be inspected and used by the public. Of special importance is the exploration database, which is centrally maintained by the LfULG in accordance with the Natural Resources Act for Saxony and forms the basis for many data services provided to economic actors, public agencies and private parties interested.

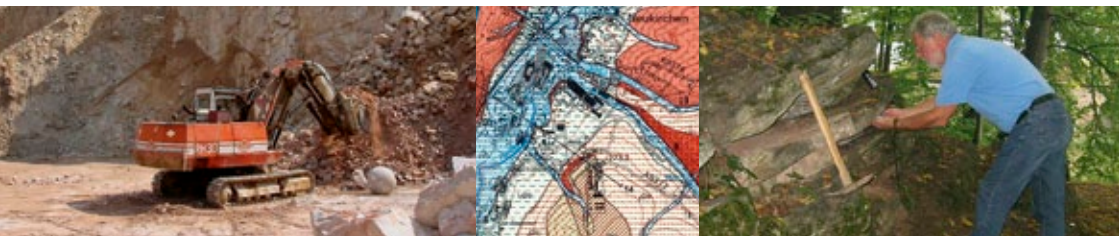
Identifying energy and risk potentials

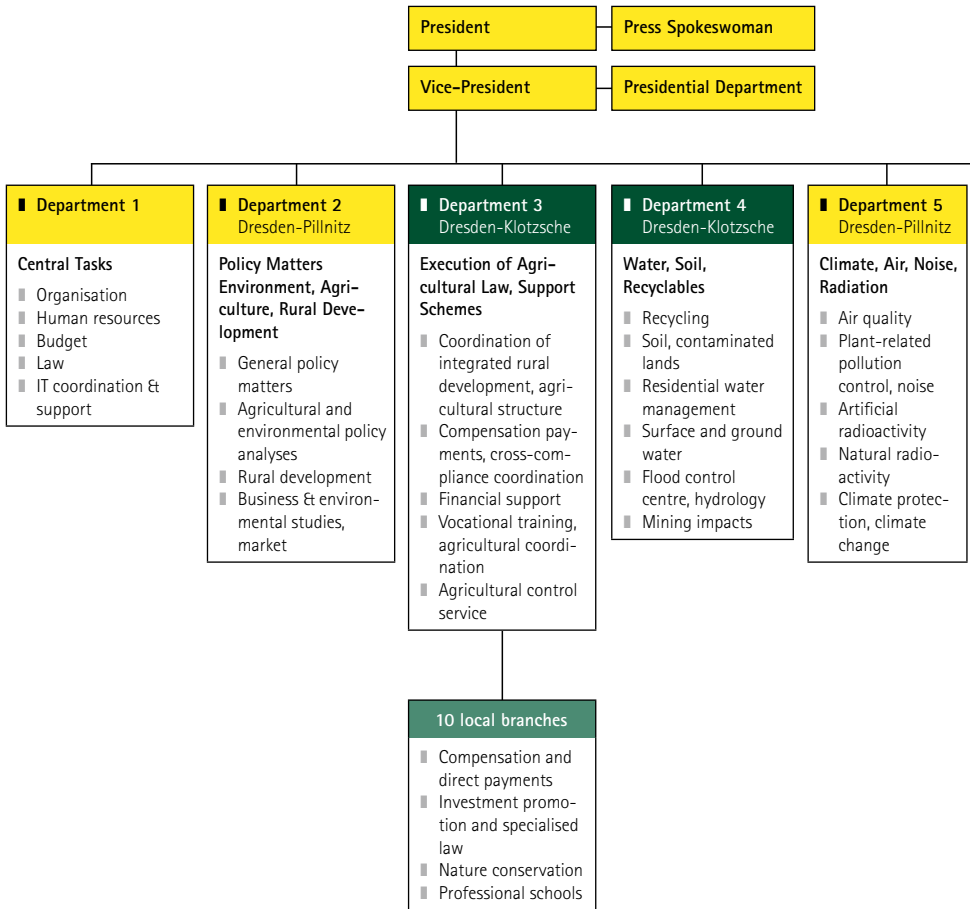
Geothermal energy is increasingly used in Saxony as an alternative to conventional heating systems. So it is more and more important to know the terrestrial heat potentials. This information is detailed in the Geothermal Atlas maintained by the LfULG as a decision-making aid for the design, profitability analysis and execution of geothermal drilling projects.

The earthquake-prone regions of Saxony are monitored and studied under the control of the LfULG in collaboration with the Leipzig and Freiberg universities and other partners within the scope of the integrated Seismology Network.

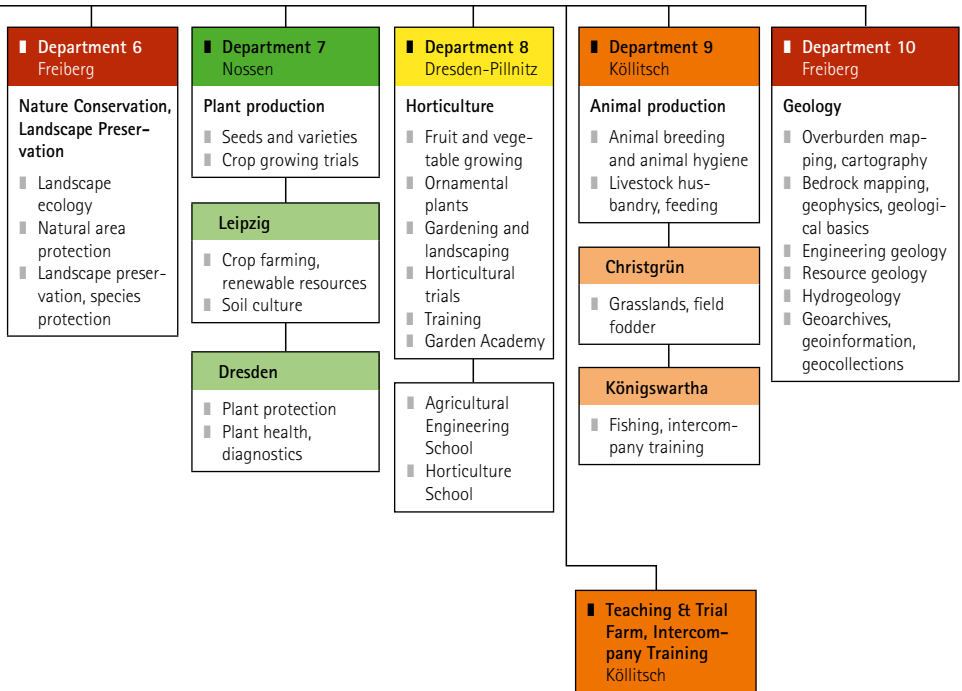
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